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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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Soviet Penal Camps in East Germany

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION 25X1

- 1. In correspondence, the MVD penal camp at Kapen is designated as "Dienstelle 273/ VI/C." It is located about two to three kilometers southeast of Vockerode, Kreis Greefenhalist In size, it is 2.5 by 2 kilometers. The camp is in a wooded area and is surrounded by signs saying "forbidden area -- to go further is forbidden."
- During the war, and earlier in the Nazi period, the camp was cameuflaged as an auxiliary installation of Buchenwald. Actually, ammunition was manufactured there. The machines and buildings which survived the war were taken over by the Soviets and improved. The camp is now used as a place of incarceration for Soviets and Germans who have come into conflict with Soviet law.
 - 3. On 16 July 1954, according to the roster in the reception barracks, there were 1230 Soviet and 650 German prisoners in the camp. The Soviet prisoners are designated on the rodl in red script, the Germansin black. Sentence is pronounced by a Soviet tribunal which comes either from Karlshorst or Siegmar-Schoenau twice a week, on Wednesday's and Saburday's. German prisoners are kept in the camp until tried, then they are either released or sent to Halle. As soon as a prisoner arrives in the camp he is put to work in the manufacture of ammunition. As far as is known, rifle bullets, rifle-grenade launchers and 7.5 cm. grenades are manufactured in the camp. Two carloads of ammunition are hauled out daily.
 - 4. The camp is surrounded by three enclosures. Inside the first, a barbed-wire fence, are four or five guard towers, with searchlights, about 100 meters apart. Each tower is manned by a Soviet soldier. The second enclosure consists of a concrete trench three meters deep in which is a wire fence, charged with electricity, rising three meters above the surface of the ground. The third enclosure consists of a cement wall, four meters high, equipped with electric signaling devices.
 - 5. Entrance to the camp is by special gates; with double sentry posts, connected by telephone.
 - 6. In front of the second enclosure are two T-34 tanks.
 - The following are also known to be camps where Soviet prisoners are held:

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- a. Dienstelle 273/V/C, an MVD camp in the Torgau fortress. It is located in the older part of the fortress.
- b. An MVD camp for women at Burg Hoheneck, Kreis Stollk
 In it are located Soviet and German women. The Soviet
 who for the most part were involved either with Germans or German organizations during the war. The German prisoners are former Nazis and functionaries of the Nazi period. These women work in a quarry which is located near the camp.
- c. Mine 33, Wismuth AG, Wittigstahl/Johann-Geergenstadt is a camp for Soviet enlisted men prisoners, all of whom work in the mine. In June 1953, the camp population was about 180.
- I the entrance to the camp state of the papers of entering transports.
- II For are are
- Former RAD barracks; size same as above. A barber, a public bath and a ware-house for confiscated and camp clothing are located here. Here, also, medical examinations are carried out.
- Former RAD barracks; same size as above. The camp administration offices, the work direction office, and the office for the issuance of subsistence cards, utensils and mattresses are located here.
- Ta Former RAD barracks; same size as above. The camp security guard consisting, for the most part, of MVD national minority troops, is located here. Only the officers are Soviets.
- Former RAD barracks; same size as above. In this barracks are found only former Soviet officer prisoners. They wear military uniforms, without insignia, and do no physical work.
- IIa Former underground storage bunker for ammunition. At present it is used as a detention cell area.
- IIb Former underground storage bunker for ammunition; size about 7 by 20 meters. Soviet enlisted men prisoners are interned here.
- IIIB Underground storage bunker for powder and explosives; size, about 20 meters square
- IIIa Storage bunker for ammunition; 20 meters square. German prisoners are located here.
- IIIb Former shop installations for the mixture and storage of explosive materials.
- IVa Underground shops; size about 150 by 30 meters; for the production of rifle bullets and grenades.
- IVb Underground bunker for ammunition; size 30 by 20 meters; for finished rifle bullets.
- IVc Underground bunker for ammunition; same size as above; for finished grenades.
- V mm Engine room for ventilators and air filters.
- ¥a Pumpworks.
- Vb loading and unloading platform for railroad cars.

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